AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 20, 22, 26-28, 30, and 33-34 as follows:

1.   (Amended) A method to generate a display, on a display device, representing venture capital ("VC") investments in a plurality of industries, comprising:

allocating a plurality of portions of the display device to correspond to a plurality of separate industries;

allocating a sub-portion of each portion to a sub-industry of the industry to which that portion corresponds; and

within the sub-portion, displaying a shape for each VC portfolio company in that sub-industry, wherein the shapes are arranged in a spiral, including determining the spatial relationship among the shapes in the spiral based on a particular characteristic associated with the VC portfolio companies.

20.   (Amended) A method to generate a display, on a display device, representing at least one venture capital firm ("VC"), comprising:

a)   allocating a plurality of linear portions of the display to correspond to a plurality of separate time segments;

b)   at each of the plurality of linear portions, displaying along the linear portion an indication of a value of a characteristic of the at least one VC firm for the time segment to which that linear portion corresponds.

22.   (Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein:

pa-730610

the step of displaying an indication of a value of a characteristic of the venture capital firm includes displaying a rectangle having a length along the linear portion based on the value of the characteristic.

26. (Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein:

the plurality of linear portions are first linear portions, and the at least one venture capital investment firm is a first venture capital firm; and

the method further comprises

allocating a plurality of second linear portions of the display to correspond to the plurality of time segments; and

at each of the plurality of second linear portions, displaying along the second linear portion an indication of a value of the first characteristic of at least one second venture capital firm in the time segment to which that second linear portion corresponds.

27. (Amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the first linear portion corresponding to a particular one of the time segments is adjacent to the second linear portion corresponding to the particular one of the time segments.

28. (Amended) A method to generate a display, on a display device, representing at least one object, comprising:

a) allocating a plurality of linear portions of the display to correspond to a plurality of separate ranges of a first characteristic;

b) at each of the plurality of linear portions, displaying along the linear portion an indication of a value of a second characteristic of the at least one object for the range, of the first characteristic, to which that linear portion corresponds.

30. (Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein:

3

the step of displaying an indication of a value of the second characteristic of the object includes displaying a rectangle having a length along the linear portion based on the value of the second characteristic.

33.   (Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein:

the plurality of linear portions are first linear portions, and the at least one object is a first object; and

the method further comprises

allocating a plurality of second linear portions of the display to correspond to the plurality of separate ranges of the first characteristic; and

at each of the plurality of second linear portions, displaying an indication of a value of the second characteristic of at least one second object in the range of the first characteristic to which that second linear portion corresponds.

34.   (Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the first linear portion corresponding to a particular one of the time segments is adjacent to the second linear portion corresponding to the particular one of the time segments.